

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Yamazaki et al.

Serial No.: 10/098,688

Filed:

March 15, 2002

For:

Heat Treatment Apparatus And

Heat Treatment Method

Examiner:

B. Chen

Art Unit:

1762

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

Shannon Wallace

Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Rep.

Signature

RESPONSE B (AFTER FINAL)

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Sir:

Applicants have the following response to the Final Rejection of January 8, 2004, a two month extension of time being submitted herewith

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's allowance of Claims 58-73, 77-80, 84-87 and 91-94. Applicants will now address each of the Examiner's remaining rejections in the order in which they appear in the Final Rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §112

In the Final Rejection, the Examiner rejects Claims 50-57 under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. This rejection is respectfully traversed.